

PUTARURU SCHOOLS NLC - ACTION PLAN FOR 2011

Our main focus is engagement with families, whanau and the wider community.

Our aim, as an NLC, is to support our cluster schools in developing ways to:

- (i) create stronger **connections** with our school families and the wider community (*NZ vision*)
- (ii) build on **community engagement** (where the “curriculum has meaning for all our students, connects with their wider lives, and engages the support of their families, whanau and communities” – *NZ principle*)
- (iii) promote and model the value of **community and participation** (*NZC values*)
- (iv) develop students’ ability to **participate and contribute** (as actively involved members of their communities” – *NZC key competencies*)

The expected Outcomes for the NLC:

- (1) to share information and ideas across the cluster to widen our knowledge about how to effectively engage our families and community
- (2) to develop a pool of shared resources of best evidence practice to enable us to improve
- (3) to develop and share effective tools for evaluating current trends and practices so that we can be well informed to make appropriate changes
- (4) to develop effective reflective practice within our schools and within the NLC.
- (5) to develop ways to engage our parents in meaningful partnerships with us in the life of the school and in student learning

Strategies to promote engagement

We will use Technology to promote and develop parent/whanau/community engagement. This will involve:

- supporting teachers in developing Technology programmes
- organising special events (such as an Inventors’ Fair, and a Bicycle Derby – made from recycled parts) which will require students to partner with their parents (in sourcing materials; design and planning; regular critical evaluation and feedback; assessment - even judging; and reflecting and making changes)
- creating specific opportunities to involve and engage parents and community in “fun” and engaging activities (eg. school provides sausage sizzle while dads help in providing some welding lessons); or parents and students learn together how to make recycled paper and use it to make Christmas cards, etc.